

(2) a medium generator arranged to generate a medium comprising a machine-readable validation code and a non-machine readable credit amount;

(3) a reader unit arranged to read the validation code from the medium; and

(4) a network interface;

(B) a network; and

Al (C) a central authority arranged to store the validation code and a credit amount received from the network in response to generating the medium, arranged to validate the validation code and arranged to transmit the stored credit amount through the network to the interface in response to validation of the validation code, the credit amount being displayed on the display.

A method embodiment of the invention is useful in a gaming system comprising a gaming machine. In such an environment, a medium, such as a ticket, may be validated by a method comprising:

generating a machine-readable validation code and a non-machine readable credit amount on the medium;

reading the validation code from the medium;

storing the validation code and a credit amount in response to generating the validation code on the medium;

validating the validation code;

transmitting the stored credit amount to the gaming machine in response to validation of the validation code; and